

Thirsty (John 4) **Pastor Deric**

(1) Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John (2) (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), (3) he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. (4) And he had to pass through Samaria. (5) So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. (6) Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

(7) A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (8) (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) (9) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) (10) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." (11) The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? (12) Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." (13) Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, (14) but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (15) The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

(16) Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." (17) The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; (18) for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." (19) The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. (20) Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." (21) Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. (22) You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. (23) But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. (24) God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." (25) The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." (26) Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

(27) Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" (28) So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, (29) "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" (30) They went out of the town and were coming to him.

(31) Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." (32) But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." (33) So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" (34) Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work." (35) Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. (36) Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. (37) For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' (38) I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

(39) Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." (40) So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. (41) And many more believed because of his word. (42) They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world." [John 4:1-42 ESV]

Practical Application

1. Are you thirsty for God? How bad do you want Him?
2. Jesus made disciples. Disciples of Jesus get baptized. Are you a disciple of Jesus? Have you been baptized? Are you making disciples of Jesus? Are you leading others to baptism?
3. Jesus is always seeking and saving the lost. Jesus sets and keeps divine appointments with people. Have you met Jesus? Do you live with God led and God ordained intentionality?
4. God knows your weariness. Jesus knows how tired you get. Jesus understands your weakness, difficulty, and need.
5. Jesus crosses all barriers to love and save people. Jesus meets us where we are in order to take us where God wants us to be. Jesus loves all people. Jesus loves you. Do you love people like Jesus does?

6. God's gift of salvation is given through Jesus. Jesus can give living water that can satisfy the human soul both now and forever. Have you ever asked Jesus for living water? Have you ever asked Jesus to save you? Are you passionate about introducing other people to Jesus?
7. Beware of being so earthy minded that you miss essential life-giving spiritual truth and help.
8. Beware of putting mere human tradition above God's divine Son and God's holy Word.
9. Beware of putting your forefathers before the Heavenly Father.
10. Jesus is greater than Jacob, his 12 sons, and every other Old Testament or historical "hero."
11. If you drink of the living water that Jesus gives you will never thirst again. His living water will become in you a spring of life-giving water.
12. Ask Jesus for everything you need.
13. Jesus knows the depth of our sin and idolatry, but He loves us still. Jesus loves us enough to go deeper with us, to help us learn more about ourselves, our need, other people, and His grace.
14. No form of sexual immorality will satisfy your thirsty soul. All forms of sexual immorality will ultimately leave you empty and searching for more.
15. Be careful that when God shows you your heart you do not get distracted by trivial, temporal, trite, and insignificant matters.
16. Believe Jesus. Believe Jesus' words. Believe/trust in Jesus today, tomorrow, and forever.
17. There is true worship and there is false worship.
18. True worship is in spirit. It is done from the core, the depth, the sincerest part of our innermost being. True worship comes from the human spirit within, and is empowered by the Holy Spirit of God. True worship is in accordance with truth, accuracy, and precision. It is done in line with who God truly is.
19. God is seeking true worshipers to worship Him today, in this room, and all over the world. Are you a true worshiper?
20. God is spirit.
21. Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One, the Promised One, the One we all need.
22. Jesus is marvelous.
23. When we meet Jesus and experience His great love we want to tell others about Him. Tell your story of meeting Jesus to others. Tell your story in a way that points people to HisStory. Share your testimony of the saving power of Christ. Invite people to learn about Jesus, hear about Jesus, and learn from Jesus with you.
24. Jesus' food was to do God the Father's will and work. This should be what drives us as well. Is your "food" to do God's will? Doing God's will and work brings a satisfaction to our souls that no meal on earth can compare to. You have been placed here on earth to do God's will and accomplish God's work; God's plan for your life. This is where true fulfillment is found.
25. Follow Jesus, and follow Jesus' example.
26. Sow seeds of the gospel. Sow God's love and truth into the lives of others and watch it/them grow. The harvest is here!
27. How are you sharing your testimony to lead others to faith in Christ?
28. Do you know that Jesus is the Savior of the world? Is He your personal Lord and Savior?
29. We live in a thirsty world that is longing for Jesus, longing for living water, even when they don't realize it. Let's tell everyone about His life-giving water!

Announcements

1. Our Men's Ministry begins today (11:45-1:00pm). Join us for food, fellowship, vision, and ministry for this upcoming year.
2. Our Small Group Ministry will be expanding this year. Join us this Saturday, January 14th from 5:00-6:30pm at the home of Stephen and Jessica Baggett for dinner, community, and connection. The address is: 24 Woodfield Road, Montevallo, AL 35115.
3. Our Wednesday night children's programing (Awana) and adult small group Bible study will start back up on January 18 (6:30-7:30pm).